

Message Text

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43

ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-11 ISO-00 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01

TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAL-01 /112 W
----- 021256

P R 261550Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9169

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 1561

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, PFOR, EFIS, EC

SUBJECT: LOS TUNA TALKS

REFS: (A) STATE 043300 (B) STATE 043303 (C) USUN 685 (D) MEXICO 1754

1. POLCOUNS MET WITH AMBASSADOR RAFAEL GARCIA VELASCO, FOREIGN MINISTRY LEGAL ADVISOR, AND AMBASSADOR TEODORO BUSTAMANTE, FOREIGN MINISTRY ADVISOR ON TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY, ON FEB 25. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS IN REF A, POLCOUNS STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE THE DEPARTMENT ATTACHES TO THE PROPOSED LOS TUNA TALKS IN NEW YORK, MARCH 8 THROUGH 12, AND HOPES TO USG THAT AGREEMENT WOULD BE REACHED AMONG STATES OF THIS REGION ON THIS ISSUE PRIOR TO LOS CONFERENCE. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM ITS DELEGATION IN NEW YORK INFORMING
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THEM OF THE PROPOSED DATES. THE GOE POSITION IS THAT IT WILL

ATTEND THE MEETING AGREED UPON BY THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE MARCH LOS TUNA TALKS, PROVIDING CHILE AND PERU ATTEND. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS REITERATED THEIR USUAL STATEMENTS REGARDING UNIFIED ACTION WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF PERU AND CHILE AND THE NEED TO CONSULT WITH THEM ON ANY DECISIONS PERTAINING TO LAW OF THE SEA.

2. AMBASSADOR BUSTAMANTE AND GARCIA VELASCO SAID THE GOE CANNOT AGREE TO DISTRIBUTION OF THE ECUADOREAN-US INFORMAL TEXT TELEGRAPHICALLY TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE TALKS. THEY STATED THAT THE GOE HAD NOT OBTAINED FINAL APPROVAL OF THE TEXT FROM THE CHILEAN AND PERUVIAN GOVERNMENTS, AND ASKED THAT THE USG CLARIFY WITH GALINDO-POHL THAT THE PAPER WILL NOT BE A FINAL DOCUMENT OF THE GOE UNTIL IT HAS BEEN ABLE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF PERU AND CHILE. AMBASSADOR GARCIA SUGGESTED THAT SUB-SECRETARY AYALA, WHO IS LEAVING FOR THE US ON FEB 27 AND PLANS TO BE IN NEW YORK UNTIL THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 14, MIGHT AGREE TO DISTRIBUTION OF THE PAPER AFTER GOE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE CHILEAN AND PERUVIAN REPRESENTATIVES ARE COMPLETED IN NEW YORK. HE SAID THAT SUBSECRETARY AYALA WILL PROBABLY SEE AMBASSADOR GALINDO-POHL IN EARLY MARCH.

3. POLCOUNS CONVEYED DEPARTMENT'S UNDERSTANDING THAT GOM INVITATION WILL BE FOR A PLENIPOTENCIARY CONFERENCE OF ALL OF THE STATES OF THE REGION AS WELL AS THE TRADITIONAL DISTANT WATER FISHING STATES, AND THAT INVITATION WILL NOT BE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF IATTC. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE BASIC PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED MEETING WOULD BE TO SEEK A REGIONAL ARRANGEMENT ON FISHING THAT WOULD REPLACE THE IATTC. (POLCOUNS CONSCIOUSLY DID NOT USE THE WORD RE-NEGOTIATE SINCE ECUADOR IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE IATTC AND ESCHEWS ANY ACTION THAT MIGHT BE CONSTRUED AS PARTICIPATION IN AND/OR SUPPORT OF THE IATTC.) POLCOUN'S EXPLANATION DID NOT FULLY SATISFY MFA OFFICIALS THAT GATHERING WOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY DISTINCT FROM AN IATTC MEETING. POLCOUNS SUGGESTED THAT GOE DISCUSS MATTER DIRECTLY WITH GOM, SINCE WE COULD NOT SPEAK FOR THE MEXICANS. AMBASSADOR BUSTAMANTE AGREED THAT THE GOE WOULD APPROACH GOM DIRECTLY ABOUT THIS SUBJECT.

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4. POLCOUNS PROVIDED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH VIEWS OF GOM SUBSECRETARY CASTENEDA ON THE INFORMAL TEXT OF ARTICLE 53 DEVELOPED BY THE US AND MEXICO (REF D). HE ALSO GAVE MFA EMBASSY'S INFORMAL SPANISH TRANSLATION OF USG/GOE INFORMAL TEXT OF ARTICLE 53, AND A COPY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNA (AS PROMISED AMBS GARCIA AND BUSTAMANTE BY THE US LOS DELEGATION WHEN IT MET

WITH GOE ON FEB 25.)
BREWSTER

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